

105th Congress, 2d Session - - - - - House Document 105-322

PAYMENTS TO CUBA

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

THE SEMIANNUAL REPORT DETAILING PAYMENTS MADE TO CUBA
BY ANY UNITED STATES PERSON AS A RESULT OF THE PROVI-
SION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES AUTHORIZED BY
THE CUBAN DEMOCRACY ACT OF 1992, PURSUANT TO 22 U.S.C.
6032



OCTOBER 9, 1998.—Message referred to the Committee on International
Relations and ordered to be printed

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

69-011

WASHINGTON : 1998

To the Congress of the United States:

This report is submitted pursuant to 1705(e)(6) of the Cuban Democracy Act of 1992, 22 U.S.C. 6004(e)(6) (the “CDA”), as amended by section 102(g) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, Public Law 104–114 (March 12, 1996), 110 Stat. 785, 22 U.S.C. 6021–91 (the “LIBERTAD Act”), which requires that I report to the Congress on a semiannual basis detailing payments made to Cuba by any United States person as a result of the provision of telecommunications services authorized by this subsection.

The CDA, which provides that telecommunications services are permitted between the United States and Cuba, specifically authorizes the President to provide for payments to Cuba by license. The CDA states that licenses may be issued for full or partial settlement of telecommunications services with Cuba, but may not require any withdrawal from a blocked account. Following enactment of the CDA on October 23, 1992, a number of U.S. telecommunications companies successfully negotiated agreements to provide telecommunications services between the United States and Cuba consistent with policy guidelines developed by the Department of State and the Federal Communications Commission.

Subsequent to enactment of the CDA, the Department of the Treasury’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) amended the Cuban Assets Control Regulations, 31 CFR Part 515 (the “CACR”), to provide for specific licensing on a case-by-case basis for certain transactions incident to the receipt or transmission of telecommunications between the United States and Cuba, 31 CFR 515.542(c), including settlement of charges under traffic agreements.

The OFAC has issued eight licenses authorizing transactions incident to the receipt or transmission of telecommunications between the United States and Cuba since the enactment of the CDA. None of these licenses permits payments to the Government of Cuba from a blocked account. For the period January 1 through June 30, 1998, OFAC-licensed U.S. carriers reported payments to the Government of Cuba in settlement of charges under telecommunications traffic agreements as follows:

AT&T Corporation (formerly, American Telephone and Telegraph Company)	\$12,795,658
AT&T de Puerto Rico	292,229
Global One (formerly, Sprint Incorporated)	3,075,733
IDB WorldCom Services, Inc. (formerly, IDB Communications, Inc.)	4,402,634
MCI International, Inc. (formerly, MCI Communications Corporation)	8,468,743
Telefonica Larga Distancia de Puerto Rico, Inc.	129,752
WilTel, Inc. (formerly, WilTel Underseas Cable, Inc.)	4,983,368
WorldCom, Inc. (formerly, LDDS Communications, Inc.)	5,371,531
	<hr/>
	39,519,648

I shall continue to report semiannually on telecommunications payments to the Government of Cuba from United States persons.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *October 8, 1998*.